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Web Announcement 118

Behavioral Health Prior Authorization Update

At the onset of 2006, the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) established a temporary leniency policy regarding Behavioral Health prior authorization (PA) requests. The goal was to grant providers time to learn how the prior authorization process operated. To facilitate this goal, DHCFP in collaboration with First Health Services offered provider training; attended various meetings and consortiums; and initiated a conference call platform to address provider questions.

In April 2006, DHCFP announced that beginning in May 2006 First Health Services would begin issuing technical denials for untimely and/or incomplete PAs. This date was subsequently extended to June 30, 2006.

As a reminder, PA requests need to be submitted in accordance with [Chapter 400](#) of the Medicaid Services Manual (posted at <http://dhcfp.state.nv.us>) and the [Billing Manual](#) (posted at <https://medicaid.nv.gov>). Beginning Jan. 1, 2007, First Health Services will begin upholding all procedural guidelines. This will require providers to submit timely: 1) requests for authorization; 2) additional information requested by the reviewer; 3) and claims.

